

## Unseen dangers

- What are some dangers that might be hard to see?
- Prayer: help us see the hard-to-see dangers in our spiritual lives

1

### Our God is Greater

Daniel 10

[bib.ly/Dan10](http://bib.ly/Dan10)



2

## Idea from Daniel 7-9

God will destroy & judge all evil  
but... trouble may still be great and severe  
even against God's people  
for seemingly far too long

Reasons:

- Sins of God's people
- An unexpected source (for 'modern' people)

3

## Daniel 10

1-3: Why was Daniel mourning?

4-9: → Look at the context...

10-14:

15-11:1:

4

## Anticipation then Disappointment

Jeremiah's warning: 70-year exile

Daniel was among the first to be exiled

Then the temple was destroyed

70 years later: King Cyrus sent Jewish people back to Jerusalem to rebuild!

They went back and started: Isaiah 40:1-5 begins

Then there was trouble ...a lot of trouble  
and the rebuilding stopped!!

5

## Daniel 10

1-3: Context: After rebuilding started...and stopped

4-9: • "At that time, I, Daniel mourned..."

10-14: • It seems, he fasted through Passover

• A celebration of God's deliverance

• At the time when God wasn't delivering!

15-11:1:

6

## Daniel 10

1-3: Context: After rebuilding started...and stopped

4-9: Daniel was overwhelmed by messenger's glory

10-14:

15-11:1:

7

## Daniel 10

1-3: Context: After rebuilding started...and stopped

4-9: Daniel was overwhelmed by messenger's glory

10-14: Message: encouragement, yet difficulties

- The overwhelmingly great messenger was effectively resisted by an evil spirit (prince)

15-11:1:

8

## Daniel 10

1-3: Context: After rebuilding started...and stopped

4-9: Daniel was overwhelmed by messenger's glory

10-14: Message: encouragement, yet difficulties

- The overwhelmingly great messenger was effectively resisted by an evil spirit (prince)

15-11:1: Daniel was **strengthened**  
to receive and to accept the message

9

**“How can someone like me, your servant, speak with someone like you, my lord? Now I have no strength, and there is no breath in me.”** *Daniel 10:17 Christian Standard Version*

10

## Daniel 10

1-3: Context: After rebuilding started...and stopped

4-9: Daniel was overwhelmed by messenger's glory

10-14: Message: encouragement, yet difficulties

- The overwhelmingly great messenger was effectively resisted by an evil spirit (prince)

15-11:1: Daniel was **strengthened**

to receive and to accept the message

- God's infallible plans involved the determined collaboration of angels who had to fight against evil spirits (princes)

11

## The Big Idea

There is an invisible yet powerful spiritual realm  
of good and evil

where great conflict is real

yet God will eventually win the victory  
for those who put their hope in God

12

“<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against **the devil's schemes**. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against **the spiritual forces of evil** in the heavenly realms.”

*Ephesians 6:10-12*

13

“Therefore put on the **full armor of God**, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of **truth** buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of **righteousness** in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the **gospel of peace**. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of **faith**, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**. <sup>18</sup> And **pray in the Spirit** on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

*Ephesians 6:13-18*

14



15

**Climbing a wall  
with tiny handholds  
is very hard!**



16





Climbing a wall  
with big handholds  
is a lot easier!

17

“In your anger do  
not sin”: Do not let  
the sun go down  
while you are still  
angry, and  
**do not give  
the devil  
a foothold.”**

*Ephesians 4:26-27*



18

Some of the surprising ways we make the devil's job easier:

**hold on to anger, fail to forgive, be greedy, lie**

19

Some of the surprising ways we make the devil's job easier:

**hold on to anger, fail to forgive, be greedy, lie**

- “In your **anger** do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and **do not give the devil a foothold.**” *Ephesians 4:26-27*

20

Some of the surprising ways we make the devil's job easier:

hold on to anger, fail to forgive, be greedy, lie

- “Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.” *2 Corinthians 2:10-11*

21

Some of the surprising ways we make the devil's job easier:

hold on to anger, fail to forgive, be greedy, lie

- “Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.” *1 Timothy 6:9*

22

Some of the surprising ways we make the devil's job easier:

hold on to anger, fail to forgive, be greedy, lie

- “When [the devil] lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

*John 8:44*

23

Some of the surprising ways we make the devil's job easier:

hold on to anger, fail to forgive, be greedy, lie

- The problem is:
  - we are weak
  - and we keep failing

24

## **The Solution: Jesus overpowers the devil**

Jesus drove a demon out from a man  
When questioned about His power over  
Satan, He said:

**“When a strong man, fully armed, guards  
his own house, his possessions are safe. But  
when someone stronger attacks and  
overpowers him, he takes away the armor  
in which the man trusted and divides up his  
plunder.” *Luke 11:21-22***

25

## **The Big Idea**

There is an invisible yet powerful spiritual realm  
of good and evil  
where great struggle is real  
yet God will eventually win the victory  
for those who **put their hope in God**  
**Jesus Christ**

26

## Application

### Be wise and strong

- Spiritual evil is real and powerful
  - A big difference between being courageous and foolish
- Trust in Jesus who is “someone stronger”
  - Don’t live in fear/“be strong and courageous”
  - “You, dear children, are from God and have overcome [the evil spirits], because **the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.**” *1 John 4:4*

27

## Application

### Be wise and strong

### Put on God’s spiritual armor

- *Don’t give the enemy a foothold!*
- belt of **Truth**
- breastplate of **Righteousness**
- boots of the **Gospel of peace**
- shield of **Faith**
- helmet of **Salvation**
- sword of **God’s word**: the Bible
- always **Pray in the Spirit**

28

## **The Big Idea**

**There is an invisible yet powerful spiritual realm  
of good and evil**

**where great struggle is real**

**yet God will eventually win the victory  
for those who put their hope in God**

**Jesus Christ**

- **Be wise and strong**
- **Hope in Christ by living in God's spiritual armor**